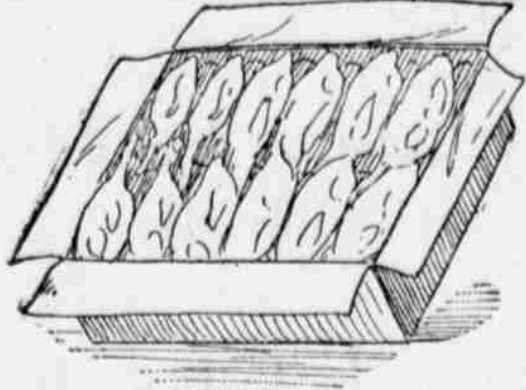


# AGRICULTURAL HINTS

## HOW TO DRESS FOWLS.

Timely Advice to Shippers, Supplied by Prof. Graham of the Ontario Agricultural College.

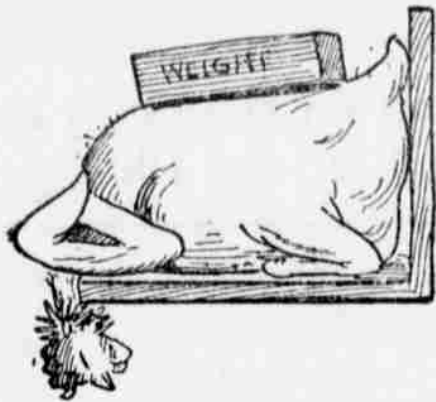
All fowls should be fasted 24 to 36 hours before killing. Where this is not done, the food decays in the crop and intestines, the result being that the flesh becomes tainted and does not keep well. In a recent bulletin of the Ontario agricultural college, Prof. Gra-



READY FOR MARKET.

ham gives some rules for dressing fowls for market.

There are two methods of killing that are considered proper. One is to kill by bleeding, which is accomplished by making a deep incision with a sharp knife in the roof of the mouth, immediately below the eyes. The other is to kill the bird by wringing or pulling the neck. Take the chicken in the hand, stretching the neck, holding the crown of the head in the palm of the hand, and giving a quick turn upward.

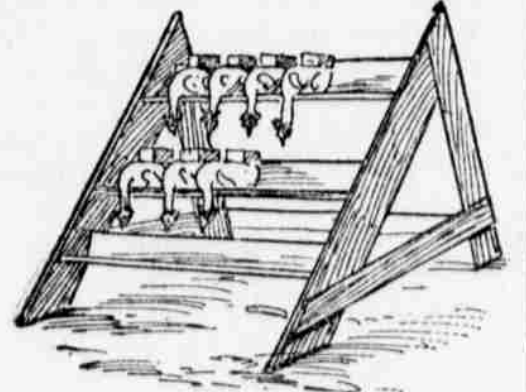


WEIGHTING THE FOWL.

and at the same time a steady pull. This method is favored by the exporters of dressed fowls, and is much cleaner than bleeding the fowls. It is claimed by the exporters that the flesh will keep longer and will not be as dry as when the birds are bled.

After the bird is killed, plucking should begin at once. Care should be taken to keep the head downward, to allow the blood to collect in the neck. Where the birds are allowed to become cool before being plucked, it is very hard to avoid tearing the skin; and the plucking is much more tedious. All fowls should be plucked clean, with the exception of about two inches of feathers adjoining the head.

After the chicken has been plucked, it should be placed on a shaping board as shown in the accompanying illus-



THE SHAPING RACK.

tration. The weight placed on the top of the chicken is used to give it a compact appearance. This weight may be of iron, as shown by the cut, or a brick will answer. If the chickens are hung by the legs after being plucked, it spoils their appearance by making them look thin and leggy.

Many good chickens are spoiled by being packed before they are thoroughly cooled. Care should be taken that all the animal heat is out of the body before the fowls are packed, and this requires at least 12 hours. Chickens are then packed in boxes, as shown in the cut. This box, which is used for export shipments, is three feet long, 17 inches wide and seven inches deep, is lined with parchment paper.

If the chickens are to be shipped a long distance, each bird is wrapped in paper, which prevents them from bruising each other, and at the same time, to a considerable extent checks decomposition. Do not use ordinary wrapping paper, as it draws dampness, and will cause the chickens to become clammy. For local shipments, a box 12 inches wide and 12 inches deep of the same length is used, which holds three tiers of fowls.—Orange Judd Farmer.

Usually, a hog with bristles has a coarse and thick skin.

## MAKING PRIME PORK.

Modern Methods of Production Differ Essentially from Those in Vogue a Few Years Ago.

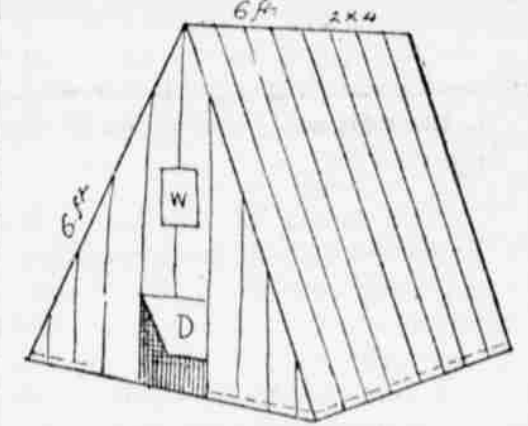
The value of corn for pork production was long since recognized; but changes in economic conditions have increased the price of corn during the past few years and made it necessary for the farmer to consider what grain crops he can grow or feed as a substitute for a portion of the corn so as to cheapen the cost of production and at the same time improve the quality of the pork, writes John R. Fain, of the Tennessee experiment station. The cheapness of corn in the past has in one sense been a detriment to the progress of swine husbandry; it has encouraged a too general use of this cereal for the development of the choicest quality of breeding animals. When corn was very cheap it was a common practice to shut the hogs up in a filthy pen and feed them an unlimited quantity without regard to cost. This made fat hogs of what is generally known as the "lard type." Close confinement and heavy feeding impaired the stamina and vigor of the animals and undoubtedly resulted in undermining the constitution of the brood sow, and this with the unsanitary quarters caused the destruction of large numbers of hogs by the dreaded cholera.

Hog breeders now realize that an open range with grass and forage crops is a desideratum of the greatest importance to them. Under such conditions a superior quality of pork is obtained with a better admixture of fat and lean. As can be easily understood from these facts and many others which might be adduced, conditions with regard to swine feeding have materially changed. Hence it becomes necessary to determine what grains may be substituted to advantage for a part of the corn formerly fed and to utilize fully such by-products of the farm as slops and skim milk, which were frequently allowed to go to waste, but which are now known to have a high feeding value.

## HOUSE EASILY MOVED.

Hog Raisers Will Find It of Great Use, as It Is Complete and Cheaply Constructed.

I have built and used to my entire satisfaction, a movable house, which fills the bill. It is very desirable for a sow to farrow in. It will shelter the litter until all are good-sized shots, weighing 190 pounds each and later



MOVABLE HOG HOUSE.

accommodate four fat hogs of 250 pounds each. In warm weather, take off the door entirely, also cut a window in the rear end for ventilation, and close it again in winter.

Make a movable floor, to fit inside the two by six-inch sills. This must be of strong boards or plank. Place the floor where you want the house to stand, then set the house over it. It is complete, cheap and easily built.

To move, tip the house over on a stone boat, pick up the floor, and you are ready to travel quicker and oftener than the proverbial preacher of short pastorate.—Orange Judd Farmer.

## Shelter Increases Egg Yield.

In an experiment at the Maine agricultural college 60 pullets placed in a room 12 by 28 feet in size averaged but six eggs more in 11 months than where 90 pullets were confined in the same space, the average yield being 109 and 103, respectively. Another lot, however, that was given warmer quarters during the cold weather, and with the same amount of floor space per hen as the lot of 90, produced an average of 144 eggs in ten months. Half of these pullets were stolen at this time, which terminated the experiment, but it had gone far enough to demonstrate the advantage of warm shelter.

## Killing Out Bermuda Grass.

Those who fear that Bermuda grass does too well with them may kill it out by plowing two or three inches deep in December, after allowing stock to graze it closely. After freezing weather in January or February, the land should be plowed again six or eight inches deep, well harrowed, and seeded thickly to oats as soon as the weather is warm enough, usually about March 1. Cowpeas should be planted on the oat-stubble immediately after harvest, and after they are mowed, pastured off, or plowed under, wheat should be sown. This method will effectually remove Bermuda grass.—Midland Farmer.

Pigs will stand considerably more nutritious or rich food, if it is given often and in small quantities.

# THE OLDEST MAN IN AMERICA

Tells How He Escaped the Terrors of Many Winters by Using Pe-ru-na.

Mr. Brock's Age is 115 Years.



MR. ISAAC BROCK, BORN IN BUNCOMBE CO., N. C., MARCH 1, 1788.

His age is 115 years, vouched for by authentic record. He says: "I attribute my extreme age to the use of Peruna."

Born before the United States was formed.

Saw 22 Presidents elected. Pe-ru-na has protected him from all sudden changes.

Veteran of four wars. Shod a horse when 99 years old. Always conquered the grip with Pe-ru-na.

Witness in a land suit at the age of 110 years.

Believes Peruna the greatest remedy of the age for catarrhal diseases.

A short time ago, by request, Uncle Isaac came to Waco and sat for his picture. In his hand he held a stick cut from the grave of General Andrew Jackson, which has been carried by him ever since. Mr. Brock is a dignified old gentleman, showing few signs of decrepitude. His family Bible is still preserved, and it shows that the date of his birth was written 115 years ago.

Surely a few words from this remarkable old gentleman, who has had 115 years of experience to draw from, would be interesting as well as profitable. A lengthy biographical sketch is given of this remarkable old man in the Waco Times-Herald, December 4, 1898. A still more pretentious biography of this, the oldest living man, illustrated with a double column portrait, was given the readers of the Dallas Morning News, dated December 11, 1898, and also the Chicago Times-Herald of same date.

ISAAC BROCK, a citizen of McLennan county, Texas, has lived for 115 years. For many years he resided at Rosque Falls, eighteen miles west of Waco, but now lives with his son-in-law at Valley Mills, Texas.

## In the Olden Times.

Nebuchadnezzar was eating grass. Pretty soon the small boy living in the house next door, where the people haven't any lawn mower, was seen coming up the walk. "Mrs. Nebuchadnezzar," he said, with confidence, "my father sent me over to see if you would lend him your husband for a while, to trim up our front lawn."—Somerville Journal.

Teosinte and Billion Dollar Grass. The two greatest fodder plants on earth, one good for 14 tons hay and the other 80 tons green fodder per acre. Grows everywhere, so does Victoria Rape, yielding 60,000 lbs. sheep and swine food per acre. [K. L.]

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## Worth All It Would Cost.

The Wife—I think we ought to have Lucy's voice cultivated, John, if it doesn't cost too much. The Husband—It can't cost too much, my dear, if it will improve it.—Stray Stories.

Wife—"Now, don't you think my new hat is a perfect dream?" Husband—"Well, no. To be a perfect dream the bill attached to it should also be merely a dream."—Philadelphia Press.

There is no impossibility to him who stands prepared to conquer every hazard. The fearful are the falling.—S. J. Hale.

Think twice before you speak, or act once, and you will speak or act the more wisely for it.—Franklin.

The best of prophets of the future is the past.—Lord Byron.

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See Fac-Simile Wrapper Below.

Very small and as easy to take as sugar.

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